

ABSTRACT

5 A method for the automatic layout of switched networks of switched network
topologies. In representative embodiments, the present patent document discloses
methods for intelligently and automatically laying out the topologies of switched
10 networks. Previous methods for laying out the topologies of switched networks have
relied upon creating a segment for each and every switch port connected to a node and
upon creating a segment for each port of a switching device that is connected to a port of
another switching device. In complex networks the proliferation of segments which will
15 change as nodes are added to and removed from the network rapidly becomes
unmanageable. Considerable simplification of the topological map can be obtained by
combining various segments into one of three segment types, a bus segment, a serial
segment, and a star segment, disclosed in the present document. In the creation of the
topological map of network, the disclosed methods are frugal in their utilization of
20 network resources and can easily be used to update the network map as changes occur.